

CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

1. A patient-side decision support system comprising:
 - a hand-held terminal usable during an examination and providing a display and user input device;
 - a terminal server communicating with the hand-held terminal and holding medical
- 5 information related to medical diagnoses as linked to a set of diagnosis codes, the terminal server further executing a stored program to:
 - (a) accept from the user input device of the hand-held terminal, input designating a methodology producing a subset of the diagnoses codes;
 - (b) present on the display of the hand-held terminal a navigation menu a
- 10 representation of the subset of the diagnosis codes generated using the selected methodology;
- (c) accept from the user input device of the hand-held terminal a selection of a particular diagnosis codes from the subset; and
- 15 whereby a comprehensive set of diagnosis codes can be present to the physician on a hand-held device at the time and location of patient examination.
2. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the methodology provides the most frequently used diagnosis codes for a predetermined set of physicians as the subset of diagnosis codes.
3. The patient-side decision support system of claim 2 wherein the methodology wherein the predetermined set of physicians is physicians practicing a common specialty.
4. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server further executes the stored program to accept from the user input device of the hand-held terminal, input identifying the user, and wherein the methodology provides the most frequently used diagnosis codes for the user.

5. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server further executes the stored program to accept from the user input device of the hand-held terminal, input identifying a patient, and wherein the methodology provides most recent diagnosis codes for the patient.

6. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server further executes the stored program to accept from the user input device of the hand-held terminal, input identifying a patient, and wherein the methodology provides diagnosis codes previously selected for the user that have not been removed by editing.

7. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the methodology provides a hierarchy having at least one level of diagnosis code groupings holding a predetermined set of related diagnosis codes that may be selected by the user to reveal the subset of diagnosis codes.

8. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server further executes a stored program to provide multiple methodology of selecting a subset of the diagnoses codes selected from the group consisting of: a methodology that provides most frequently used diagnosis codes for a predetermined set of physicians as the subset of diagnosis codes; a methodology that provides most frequently used diagnosis codes for the user; and a methodology that provides most recent diagnosis codes for the patient.

9. The patient-side decision support system of claim 7 wherein the terminal server further executes a stored program to provide the user with the ability to search for a specific diagnosis code by name of the diagnosis code.

10. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the diagnosis codes are ICD-9 codes.

11. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server further includes a table selecting only a subset of the ICD-9 codes to include in the set of diagnosis codes selectable by the user.

12. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server further executes a stored program to:

(d) provide to the user the medical information linked to the selected diagnosis codes.

13. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server further executes a stored program to provide to the user a set of prewritten prescriptions prepared by a team of specialists.

14. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server further executes the stored program to accept from the user input device of the hand-held terminal, input identifying the user, and wherein the methodology provides a set of prewritten prescriptions being the most frequently used prescription by the user for the selected diagnosis code.

15. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the medical information is selected from the group consisting of relevant treatment options, patient handouts, and physician education information.

16. The patient-side decision support system of claim 1 wherein the diagnosis codes of the displayed subset is hyperlinked to a description of the diagnosis code

17. The patient decision support system of claim 1 wherein the terminal server and the hand-held terminal provide interfaces connecting to the Internet and wherein the terminal server connects with the hand-held terminal via the Internet.

18. The patient decision support system of claim 1 wherein the hand-held terminal provides a wireless link communicating with the terminal server.

19. The patient decision support system of claim 1 wherein the physician input device is selected from a keyboard and stylus entry device.

20. The patient decision support system of claim 1 wherein the display is a graphic display providing for the display of text and images.

21. The patient decision support system of claim 16 wherein display provides a resolution of at least 600 by 200 pixels..